

AGRICULTURAL.

Bird Sheds.

It is an old saying that shelter is food. While it is true that good shelter will save a large amount of food that stock would be compelled otherwise to consume to save life, yet it will not do to furnish only shelter, they must have food besides. But if we wish to save one half or one-third of the food that would be required to feed them in a certain condition, we can do so by providing shelter. That is to say, an animal exposed to the cold, storms, winds, and weather, and compelled to sleep on the cold, frozen or wet ground, will require at least one third more food to keep it in good condition, than it would require to keep it in the same condition if in a warm, dry shed or stable, where no such exposure was experienced. As our crops have been cut short by the drought this year, and it is necessary to save all we can, the advisability of making shelter of some kind, must be apparent to all.

Every farmer has the material at hand to make cheap shelter. If he has not the boards or planks he can go to the woods and cut posts and poles and make a covering of straw or cheap hay. He can put up mud-breaks about his yard or sheds, and make comfortable quarters for his stock. He can thus save food, and save the gnawings of conscience, for conscience must reprove the owner when his stock stands shivering in the fence corners exposed to the pitiless storms. The cows refuse to give milk, the cattle and horses lose their flesh and spirit, their bones daily become more visible, and if the graveyard is not a recipient of their carcasses it is a wonder. From such farming as this deliver us. It is unchristian, inhuman. No one has a moral right to keep more stock than he can keep comfortably. But on the point of economy it will pay to make shelter. The food that will be thus saved will more than pay for making the shelter, letting alone the humanitarian question entirely. Corn stalks can be used as a covering.

It is not profitable to keep stock unless it is kept thriving. It is the worst economy that a man can use to let stock lose in winter after they have gained in summer. They not only bring no return for the feed in winter, if allowed to get poor, but lose that and all they have gained in summer besides. If stocks are always kept thriving, in winter or summer, they are daily becoming more valuable, and what is fed to them value is received for. There is a gain instead of a loss. Every day they lose in flesh, the farmer loses. Every day they gain the farmer's pocket gains.—*Rural World.*

The Sheep as a Renovator.

A correspondent of the Southern Farm and Home Journal gives his experience with the "animal with the golden fleece," which will be found interesting by the readers of this paper.

I think I know a first-rate renovator which will pay for itself by its own increase in one year, and leave the good it does for the land clear profit. When I was in Virginia, following the flag of Stonewall Jackson, I had occasion to see what sheep did for that country; and when I came home dead-brake, with nothing but a small worn-out farm, my own labor, and the help of a half-grown son, I determined to buy a few sheep with the first money I could spare, and that they could do for me.

I bought in the fall of one year for \$20 ten two-year-old ewes that were in lamb. I put them in a small field close to my house, that was full of briars and weeds, and that would have had to be tickled mightily to make it produce eight bushels of corn. They soon ate up the briars and grass in the fence corners, and by their constant tramping back and forth, they destroyed all the weeds. I gave them plenty of water, a little meal or shorts, or sometimes wheat bran every day, and I salted them frequently. I kept them in that field during that winter, provided them with shade shelter for bad weather; fed them regularly with turnips and beets, and some swamp hay I had saved. They thrived finely, and in the spring I had thirteen as fine lambs as ever were seen, worth as much as I gave for the ewes, and I considered that the wool and mutton paid me much more than the cost of the feed. I plowed the field in time for corn planting, planted it in corn the regular way, and gathered from thirty to thirty-five bushels of fine corn to the acre, while on the spot immediately around the shelter where they used to gather at night, I am sure at the rate of fifty bushels.

I have kept up the use of this renovator ever since, and I find that it pays handsomely. I have never bought an ounce of gum or phosphate. I make fine crops of corn, and wheat and clover and turnips. I have a splendid flock of sheep, and hope soon to have a single acre of land on my farm. My renovator has not cost me anything, and it lasts more than a year. I will hear from it for several years.

ACCORDING to Prof. Waterhouse, the mountains of the state of Missouri contain iron enough to yield a million of tons per annum of that precious metal for a period of two centuries. The "Pilot Knob" alone, which rises to an altitude of 1,114 feet above the Mississippi, is so rich in iron that it is estimated an upper section, 111 feet high, would yield fourteen millions of tons. The quality of the metal is fibrous and flexible, and therefore excellent.

MANY hop-growers have been called upon to respond in various amounts for infringing on a patent for stringing hop-vines, that of using short poles and running strings between them for the vines to cling to.

A BUSINESS THAT PAYS.—Second advertisement of "Wealth and Wonders of the Boundless West." One agent is clearing \$200 per week.

Weights and Measures as Recognized by the Laws of the United States.

We publish the following, not because it is new, but because it is sometimes valuable and convenient for reference:

WEIGHTS	LIBRS.	RUBLES.	LIBRS.
Wheat.....	50	Bluegrass Seed.....	14
Corn.....	50	Barley.....	14
Corn to eat.....	50	Dried Apples.....	24
Rye.....	50	Dried Peaches.....	34
Oats.....	52	Onions.....	57
Potatoes.....	60	Stone Coal.....	50
Potatoes.....	55	Bran.....	30
White Beans.....	60	Plastering Lime.....	30
Covered seed.....	60	Unstacked Lime.....	35
Timothy Seed.....	45	Coral Meal.....	35
Lax Seed.....	45	Fine Salt.....	35
Almonds.....	44	Ground Almonds.....	35
Mustard seed.....	50	Ground Peas.....	34
Powder.....	24		

HOW TO LAY OUT A SQUARE OF GROUND.

Measure 200 feet on each side and you will have a square acre within an inch.

CONTENTS OF AN ACRE.

An acre contains 4,840 square yards. A square mile contains 640 acres.

MEASURE OF DISTANCES.

A mile is 5,280 feet, or 1,760 yards in length. A fathom is six feet. A league is three miles. A Sabbath day's journey is 1,155 yards, this is 18 yards less than two-thirds of a mile. A day's journey is 33 miles. A cubit is two feet. A great cubit is 11 feet. A hand (horse measure) is four inches. A palm is 3 inches. A span is 10½ inches. A space is 3 feet.

BARREL MEASURE.

A barrel of flour, weight 196 pounds. A barrel of pork 200 pounds. A barrel of rice 600 pounds. A keg of powder 25 pounds. A firkin of butter 26 pounds. A tub of butter 84 pounds.

VARIOUS WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

A ton of round timber is 40 feet, of square timber 55 cubic feet. A commercial bale of cotton is 400 pounds. A section of government land is 640 acres (1 mile). A liquid ton is 252 gallons. A box 16x16 inches and 8 inches deep, contains abashed.

A PROVIDENTIAL MAN.—This title now justly belongs to a physician who has added to the list of medicines a new remedy, which appears to include all that is most valuable in the old pharaoepeia, and not to include any of the drawbacks with which the so-called specifics of the faculty are chargeable. The providential man is Dr. Joseph Walker of California, whose Vinegar Bitters have achieved, in the short space of two years, a degree of popularity never before attained by any advertised preparation in this country. We have no much confidence in the shrewdness of the American people to suppose that this sudden and surprising celebrity is the outgrowth of a delusion. Indeed, we have reason to know that it is founded on innumerable and well-authenticated cures of almost all the bodily ills that flesh is heir to. Not the least among the merits of the famous tonic and restorative, is its entire freedom from alcohol, as well as from all mineral drugs. It is composed exclusively of rare vegetable extracts.

BORN IN Houses.—In the Popular Science Monthly there is a short article relative to the power of endurance manifested by the larvae of some insects, and among them of the bot fly. It mentions a case where a piece of the stomach of a dead horse, which was covered with bot worms was spread on a board and spirits of turpentine was poured on the worms; yet after an hour not one was detached from the flesh. Then whale-oil was poured on them, when they all let go their hold, and died almost immediately. Hence the inference that whale-oil should be used to detach the worms from the living horse, when attacked by bots.

WE SAW that PROCTER & GAMBLE'S EXTRA OLIVE SOAP is becoming very popular in our city, its quality we know is superior, and being nicely perfumed we are not surprised that consumers prefer it, and that it has a large sale.

LATE CHICKENS THE BEST LAYERS.—A correspondent of the Country Gentleman writes: After repeated experiments during the past twenty-five years in hatching chickens, I am fully convinced that the fowls hatched in the month of July makes far better layers than those born at any other season of the year. Early hatched chicks commence laying in September, and continue until cold January weather, when they discontinue until spring. On the other hand, when hatched in July or August, they begin laying in February, and continue until October. I find July chickens will average 50 to 75 more eggs yearly than those hatched in March. My method, therefore, is to hatch 100 chicks in August for my own use. As soon as the cocks can be selected from the pullets, they are converted into pot-pie, giving the pullets all the room. The pullets are then well fed, and are soon large enough to care for themselves.

A CORRESPONDENT of a Montreal journal, speaking of the lately deceased duke of Brunswick, says: "One of the ugliest men, he was accustomed to have himself painted and enamelled, and made up with all the artificially of the patriciates of Mae, Rachel. His bald head was crowned with a blue-black wig, one of thirty, changed every day, and imitating the growth of hair; no 1. Being cut close to imitate a head just cropped by the barber; no 2 being a trifle longer, and so on all through the series. When the duke appeared in wigs 29 and 30, he was accustomed to run his fingers through their long locks with the remark that he must really have his hair cut."

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THE ATTENTION of our many readers is called to the attractive advertisement of J. N. Harris & Co., advertising their great and valuable lung remedy, "Allen's Lung Balsam." This balsam has been before the public for ten years. Notwithstanding this long period, it has never lost one whit of its popularity, or shown the least sign of becoming unpopular, but on the contrary, the call for it has been constantly increasing, and at no previous time has the demand been so great, or the quantity made so large, at this day. We earnestly recommend its trial by any one who may be afflicted with a cough or cold, and we warrant it to cure if directions are followed. It is sold by all our city druggists.

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A Vegetable Curiosity.

There grows in the low, sandy savannas of North Carolina, near Wilmington, the *dionaea muscipula*, or Venus fly-trap. It is of the vegetable kingdom, and feeds on flies, insects or small animals. It is a native of that locality alone, and is one of the greatest curiosities of the age. It is said this plant can beat the aligator in the performance of catching flies. It is a carnivorous vegetable, and will not flourish unless nurtured by meat diet. The manner in which this phenomenon of nature captures its prey is thus described: "Each leaf is tipped with an appendage shaped like the open covers of a book, with the corners rounded, and the edges fringed with stiff bristles. This proves a deadly trap to every insect that alights on it, for instantly on feeling the irritation it shuts together us it by a spring along the midrib, and, interlacing the bristles, holds the luckless victim tight until his struggles and life cease together. But this trick of fly-catching is not practiced merely for wantonness. The strangest part of all the proceedings is, as soon as the insect is enclosed in this living prison, for numerous minute glands immersed in the texture of the walls, the saliva-like liquid, a sort of gastric juice, is given out that moistens and dissolves all its soft parts, which are then taken into the system of the plant by absorption. When the nutritive portions of the insect have thus been consumed, the trap slowly uncloses, and is ready for another insect. The process is repeated often but once or twice, for, as in all cases where plants have the capacity of motion, the sinews of the leaf grow stiff with age, it loses its sensitivity, and gradually decays.

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POISONOUS PLANTS.—We do not recommend the frequent or instant use of any medicine. It is important to take even a good article judiciously. Parsons' Purgative Pills are safe, prompt and reliable as a laxative or cathartic.

FOR FARMERS.—"Wealth and Wonders of the Boundless West." It is new, and having a wonderful sale. Advertised in this paper.

PEERLESS CLOTHES WRINGER.

HALF ALIVE.—It is said that half an hour's time is all that is required to restore a person to life, if he is dead. We do not believe this, but we do believe that it is a fact that a person can be resuscitated by a strong tonic.

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THE HOUSEHOLD PANACEA, AND FAMILY LINIMENT.

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